

INCREASE OF SALARY OF FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
OF THE INTERIOR.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A COPY OF A COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE  
INTERIOR SUBMITTING AN ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR  
INCREASE OF SALARY OF FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF  
INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

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JANUARY 24, 1902.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be  
printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, January 23, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of  
Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Interior  
of this date, submitting a supplemental estimate of appropriation for  
the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903, increasing the salary of the  
First Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior from  
\$4,500 to \$6,000.

Respectfully,

L. J. GAGE,  
*Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, January 23, 1902.*

SIR: Herewith is a supplemental estimate of a desired appropriation  
to cover a recommended increase in the salary of the First Assistant  
Secretary of this Department. I beg that you will transmit it to Con-  
gress at your earliest convenience, with my most earnest approval.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HITCHCOCK, *Secretary.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

## 2 INCREASE OF SALARY OF FIRST ASST. SECRETARY OF INTERIOR.

*Estimates of appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903.  
by the Secretary of the Interior.*

### INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

#### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

Salaries, office of the Secretary of the Interior—

For salary of First Assistant Secretary of the Interior (act of March 3, 1885, vol. 23, p. 497, sec. 1; March 3, 1901, vol. 31, p. 995, sec. 1).....	\$4, 500
Increase in salary of First Assistant Secretary of the Interior (submitted).....	1, 500
Total.....	6, 000
Amount appropriated for the current fiscal year, ending June 30, 1902....	4, 500

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR: The present salary of the First Assistant Secretary of the Interior is altogether an inadequate compensation for the exacting duties performed by him. The public business committed to this Department for disposition is of great volume, varied in character, important to the Government and the individuals affected, and difficult of disposition because of the intricate questions of fact, law, and public policy frequently involved. The labor incident to the necessary work of supervision and direction is so enormous as to be beyond the capacity of any one man and to severely tax the energies of the Secretary and his assistants. In addition to the increase of business consequent upon the development of the country and the employment of its resources, Congress from time to time augments the work of this Department by the imposition of new duties. Next to the Secretary, the responsibility for the necessary work of supervision and direction falls upon the First Assistant Secretary, whose duties are multiplied during times of the necessary and temporary absence of the Secretary, because he then takes the latter's place. The compensation of heads of bureaus in this Department is in several instances \$5,000, and in one \$6,000, and yet the First Assistant Secretary is superior to all of them in authority, is required in considerable measure to supervise their action, and carries a degree of responsibility which is beyond that borne by any of them. His compensation ought to be at least \$6,000 per annum.